

T
BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH



ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health of the Borough

for the year

1969

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH
A N N U A L R E P O R T

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 6 9

by

D.J.N. McNab, V.R.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

and

CLEMENT WILLARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing
Superintendent.

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1969.

Councillor R. Affleck (Chairman, January - May) (January - December)
Councillor A.R. Wiggins (Chairman, June - December)
The Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen Mrs. D. Baker (January - May)
The Worshipful the Mayor, Mr. H.R. Bourke (June - December)
Alderman K.L. Smith (January - December)
Councillor A.R. Payne (January - May)
Councillor J. Beauchamp (January - December)
Councillor W.F. Freestone (January - December)
Councillor K.W. Gibbs (January - December)
Councillor W.C.F. Horsford (January - December)
Councillor M. Lynk (January - December)
Councillor T. Staniforth (January - December)

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

D.J.N. McNAB, V.R.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge and Borough of Lymington and an Assistant County Medical Officer for the County of Hampshire.

Address: Druitt Buildings, Christchurch.
Telephone No: Christchurch, 4321.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

CLEMENT WILLARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector.

M.H. STOREY, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

D.J. Cartridge, Cert. S.I.B.
R.F. Blinkhorn, M.A.P.H.I.

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 6 9

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

OF THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

I submit for your information and consideration my twenty-third Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your Borough.

As an integral part of this Report there follows the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector on those sections of the work of the Health Department with which he is specially concerned.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS:

The ancient Borough of Christchurch is situated in the extreme south-west corner of the Administrative County of Hampshire and has many notable advantages. It lies at the confluence of two very different rivers, the Avon and the Stour which flow into a vast land-locked tidal basin, Christchurch Harbour. To the north east lie the open spaces of the New Forest and to the west the popular resort of Bournemouth. The subsoil is mainly of sand and gravel. With these manifest attractions the area is popular for retirement so that there is a rising population of older people and in recent years a steadily falling birth rate. The population has in fact risen by 90% since the end of the war, almost entirely by immigration.

Unfortunately the omens are not propitious for the continuation of the Borough as a separate entity. With the impending re-organisation of Local Government we shall become a unit of a larger, or a very much larger, Local Authority.

Industry is perhaps unusually diversified; the aircraft industry directly or indirectly is probably the major source of employment but there are two Government Research Establishments, one of which is regrettably being reduced, and such other businesses as boat building, wallpaper manufacturing, industrial castors and the making of fishing tackle. All of this is entirely free from industrial smoke.

RAINFALL FOR 1969: (at Sewage Disposal Works, Stony Lane)

	<u>Ins.</u>		<u>Ins.</u>
January...	... 4.57	July ...	... 2.18
February..	... 1.70	August ...	... 3.10
March ...	... 3.00	September...	... 1.36
April ...	... 0.58	October ...	... 0.22
May ...	... 3.46	November ...	... 4.80
June ...	... 1.22	December ...	... 3.66
<u>TOTAL:</u> 29.85 inches.			

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area: 4,807 acres (Census 1961)

Population: Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1969: 31,780.

Number of inhabited houses: 11,488.

Rateable value: 31.3.69: £1,865,897.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £7,443. 17s. 10d.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1969: (as supplied by the Registrar-General)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Christchurch</u>	<u>England and</u> <u>Wales</u>
<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>					
Total...	...364	174	190		
Legitimate ...	330	155	175		
Illegitimate...	34	19	15		

LIVE BIRTH RATE: (Area comparability factor 1.45)

per 1,000 population ...	...	11.5	16.3
Local Adjusted Rate ...	...	16.7	
Ratio of Local Adjusted Rate to			
National Rate..	...	1.02	1.00

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of</u> <u>Christchurch</u>	<u>England and</u> <u>Wales</u>
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ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS:

per cent of total live births . . . 7 8

STILL BIRTHS:

Total...	6	3	3
Legitimate ...	6	3	3
Illegitimate..	-	-	-

STILL BIRTH RATE:

per 1,000 total (live & still) births 16 13

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS: 370.

INFANT DEATHS:

Deaths under one year of age

Total...	4	1	3
Legitimate ...	3	1	2
Illegitimate..	1	-	1

Deaths under 4 weeks of age

Total...	4	1	3
Legitimate ...	3	1	2
Illegitimate..	1	-	1

Deaths under one week of age

Total...	4	1	3
Legitimate ...	3	1	2
Illegitimate..	1	-	1

INFANT MORTALITY RATE:

per 1,000 live births - Total	11	18
per 1,000 live births - Legitimate	9	17
per 1,000 live births - Illegitimate	29	25

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Borough of Christchurch</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
<u>NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE:</u>					
<u>Deaths under 4 weeks</u>					
per 1,000 live births ...			...	11	12
<u>EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE:</u>					
<u>Deaths under one week</u>					
per 1,000 live births ...			...	11	10
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE:</u>					
<u>Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined</u>					
per 1,000 total (live & still) births				27	23
<u>MATERNAL DEATHS: (Including abortion)</u>				Nil.	
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE:</u>					
per 1,000 total (live & still) births				Nil	0.19
<u>DEATHS:</u>	441	219	222		
<u>DEATH RATE: (Area comparability factor 0.62)</u>					
per 1,000 population ...			...	13.9	11.9
Local adjusted rate ...			...	8.6	
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate.			...	.72	1.00
<u>SPECIAL CAUSES:</u>					
<u>Death rate per 1,000 population</u>					
Tuberculosis...			...	Nil	0.04
Cancer (lung and bronchus)			...	0.75	0.61
Cancer (all causes)			...	3.27	2.35

CAUSES OF DEATH:

									<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
B18	Other infective and parasitic diseases								-	2
B19(1)	Malignant neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.								1	2
B19(2)	Malignant neoplasm, Oesophagus								1	1
B19(3)	Malignant neoplasm, Stomach.. .. .								4	7
B19(4)	Malignant neoplasm, Intestine								9	8
B19(5)	Malignant neoplasm, Larynx								1	-
B19(6)	Malignant neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus								18	6
B19(7)	Malignant neoplasm, Breast								-	4
B19(8)	Malignant neoplasm, Uterus								-	3
B19(9)	Malignant neoplasm, Prostate.								3	-
B19(10)	Leukaemia								1	1
B19(11)	Other Malignant neoplasms								17	17
B20	Benign and unspecified neoplasms.. .. .								1	2
B21	Diabetes Mellitus								-	2
B23	Anaemias								1	1
B46(2)	Other Diseases of blood etc.. .. .								1	1
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease								2	4
B27	Hypertensive Disease.								3	3
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease								70	45
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease.								8	16
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease								21	42
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System.. ..								12	14
B31	Influenza								1	1
B32	Pneumonia								10	23
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema.. .. .								12	1
B34	Peptic Ulcer								1	-
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia.								1	-
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver								2	-
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System								6	3
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis								-	3
B46(8)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System. ..								2	2
B46(10)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System								-	1
B42	Congenital Anomalies								2	-
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour Etc.								-	2
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality								-	1
B45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions								1	1
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents.. .. .								2	1
BE48	All Other Accidents.. .. .								2	1
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries								2	1
BE50	All Other External Causes								1	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES									219	222

COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS:

(Since the District was formed in 1932)

Year	Population	Borough of Christchurch			England and Wales		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1932	11,250	62.5	17.0	11.3	65	15.3	12.0
1937	13,540	45.0	14.8	12.5	58	14.9	12.4
1942	15,200	30.0	17.5	13.3	49	15.8	11.6
1947	18,180	30.0	19.7	12.8	41	20.5	12.0
1952	21,290	21.9	14.9	11.0	27.6	15.3	11.3
1957	23,790	9.0	14.0	12.9	23.0	16.1	11.5
1962	26,640	11.9	12.6	15.1	21.4	18.0	11.9
1965	28,630	18.5	13.2	14.5	19.0	18.1	11.5
1966	29,610	10.9	12.4	15.5	19.0	17.7	11.7
1967	30,270	24.1	12.3	15.7	18.3	17.2	11.2
1968	31,140	23.0	12.5	15.9	18.0	16.9	11.9
1969	31,780	11.0	11.5	13.9	18.0	16.3	11.9

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE:

Disease	Number notified
Measles.. ..	9
Scarlet Fever.. ..	1

TUBERCULOSIS:

		<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>
		<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
No. on Register at 31.12.69..	..	175	122	17	21	335
No. of new notifications ..	..	6	3	-	-	9
Transfers from other areas ..	..	2	2	-	-	4
Deaths.. ..	..	-	-	-	-	-

LUNG CANCER:

24 deaths occurred from lung cancer, of whom 8 men and 2 women were under the age of 65. This total has only once been equalled - in 1963. 188 people from this Borough have now died from smoker's cancer in the past ten years, 100 in the past five.

The national death rate continues its progressive rise. 29,763 deaths occurred in 1969 - 937 more than the previous year. In 1945, 188 persons per million died of lung cancer, now this figure is 610 per million - a $3\frac{1}{4}$ times increase in 25 years. In conjunction with other related deaths from smoking more than 1,000 persons a week now die, directly or indirectly from the effects of cigarette smoking.

Sir George Godber, Chief Medical Officer to the Department of Health and Social Security said, in an address to the Royal Society of Health in April 1970:- " The most fully exposed noxious influence in our environment at the present time is of course cigarette smoke -----

----- There is no other agent in our environment that approaches the cigarette in menace to health and life."

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA:

1. Laboratory facilities.

The Borough is served by a constituent laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service now sited in new premises within Poole General Hospital. It remains under the direction of Dr. G.J.G. King. We are constantly indebted to Dr. King and his technicians for their assistance and advice. Mr. E.C. Young, Head Technician at the Laboratory during all my service in this area has recently retired. He was an old and valued friend and I wish him well in his retirement.

The following list of specimens from the Borough examined at the Laboratory during the year, has been kindly supplied by the Director.

Faeces and Urine..	..	18
Ice Cream ..	.. ..	47
Water..	.. ..	92
Food ..	.. ..	2
Other Sanitary	.. ..	32
Milk ..	.. ..	17
Nose and throat	.. ..	2
Bloods.	.. ..	<u>3</u>
		213

2. Hospitals.

Christchurch Hospital - acute and chronic.

The majority of patients from the Borough requiring hospital treatment go to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Bournemouth.

Cases of infectious disease are treated at the infectious diseases unit at Poole General Hospital.

3. Tuberculosis.

The Chest Clinic is held at Christchurch Hospital where the Chest Physician, Dr. A.T. Hendry, holds a joint appointment with the Regional Hospital Board and the County Council. A Health Visitor is also in attendance.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

1. Ambulance Service

The area Ambulance Service is provided from a main station at Lymington with sub-stations at Christchurch and Ringwood. All ambulances are fitted with wireless and are controlled from a central control at Winchester, to which all requests for ambulance services must be directed.

The Central Ambulance Control,
Queens Road,
Winchester.

Tel: Winchester 61644

Emergency 999 calls are routed direct to central control.

2. Nursing Services.

Details of Nurses and their areas:-

<u>District Served</u>	<u>Name and address</u>	<u>Service</u>
Attached to Drs. Kay, Pearce and Elphick, Dr. Eldon, Dr. McLeish, and unattached G.P.'s other than Bournemouth	Miss K. Ella, 13, Edward Road, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 2225	DISTRICT NURSE
Attached to Drs. Bolton and Cantlie, Dr. Freeth and Bournemouth G.P.'s.	Mrs. A.E. Gutheridge, 36, Walcott Avenue, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 4729	DISTRICT NURSE
Christchurch	Mrs. E.G. Sprackland, 12, Carisbrooke Way, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel: Highcliffe 2433	GENERAL RELIEF
Attached to Drs. Wyatt, Carr and Scott-Jupp.	Mrs. Q. Boothby, 46, Hunt Road, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 5091	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Attached to Drs. Falkner Lee, Brooks, Harcourt Webster and Gilbertson. General work for Dr. Barnett.	Mrs. I. Sherwood, 2, Bracken Way, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel: Highcliffe 3282	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Attached to Drs. Deane, Druitt and Lawrence.	Mrs. P.M. Dinsley, 25, Stanpit, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 6204	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE
Work for all G.P.'s Christchurch, Highcliffe, Somerford, except attached G.P.'s.	Miss M. Ellwood, 2, Felton Crescent, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel: Highcliffe 3426	DISTRICT MIDWIFE

<u>District served</u>	<u>Name and address</u>	<u>Service</u>
Attached to Drs. Falkner Lee, Brooks, Harcourt Webster and Gilbertson.	Miss I.K. Webb, 280, Lymington Road, Highcliffe, Christchurch. Tel: Highcliffe 2061	DISTRICT NURSE/ MIDWIFE AND HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Carr, Wyatt and Scott-Jupp and Bournemouth G.P.'s	Miss D. Hayes, 61, Baring Road, Southbourne, Bournemouth. Tel: Bournemouth 47334	HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Deane, Druitt and Lawrence, Dr. Eldon, Dr. Freeth.	Miss E.M. Gibbs, 4, Sandy Lane, Christchurch, Tel: Christchurch 2015	HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Kay, Pearce and Elphick and Dr. Barnett.	Miss K. Sheldon, 97, The Grove, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 6260	HEALTH VISITOR
Attached to Drs. Bolton and Cantlie, Chest Clinic Health Visitor.	Mrs. E. Stone, 17, Springfield Avenue, Christchurch. Tel: Christchurch 3269	HEALTH VISITOR
Christchurch (Relief) Attached to Dr. McLeish and unattached Bournemouth G.P.'s.	Mrs. M. Monk, 6, Hadden Road, Queens Park, Bournemouth. Tel: Bournemouth 35600	P/T HEALTH VISITOR

3. Home Help Service.

Divisional Organiser, Mrs. J. Whiting, 12 Empress Road,
Lyndhurst, Tel: Lyndhurst 2762.

4. Child Health Clinics.

<u>Clinic</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Time</u>
Christchurch	County Council Health Clinic Millhams Street	Every Tuesday 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Somerford	Social Centre Southey Road	Every Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.
Highcliffe	St. Mark's New Church Hall	First Friday in month at 2.30 p.m.

5. School Health Service.

School medical inspections are carried out periodically by Assistant County Medical Officers and Health Visitors.

Dental and special clinics are held at the Millhams Street Health Clinic.

6. Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis and Vaccination against Smallpox.

Treatment is carried out by family doctors and at Child Health Clinics and Schools. Until September 1969 all the records were maintained by your Medical Officer of Health on behalf of the County Medical Officer. Since that date the programming and the recording of the immunisation of children born after 1st July 1967 have been increasingly undertaken by the County computer. The computer selects children due for each stage of immunisation, prints an appointment card for each mother and makes out nominal lists for family doctor or clinic sessions according to the mother's preference, previously ascertained by a health visitor. It is considered that the individual invitations issued for each stage of immunisation, together with reminders for missed appointments, will result in the maintenance of a satisfactory level of immunisation.

Record Cards received during 1969

Type of Vaccine	Year of Birth					Others under 16	Total
	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965-62		
<u>DIPHTHERIA- WHOOPING COUGH & TETANUS</u>							
Primary	7	141	21	5	5	1	180
Re-inforcing	-	11	62	26	69	4	172
<u>DIPHTHERIA-TETANUS</u>							
Primary	-	2	-	-	5	2	9
Re-inforcing	-	-	4	-	230	13	247
<u>DIPHTHERIA ONLY</u>							
Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Re-inforcing	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
<u>POLIOMYELITIS</u>							
Primary	8	178	25	9	22	3	245
Re-inforcing	-	6	13	5	304	28	356

Smallpox Vaccination Record Cards received during 1969

Age	Months				Years			Total
	0-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	1-year	2-4	5-15	
Primary Vaccinations	-	-	-	7	113	42	15	177
Re-Vaccinations	-	-	-	-	-	8	39	47

7. Measles Vaccination.

A good response to measles vaccination, in spite of limited supplies of vaccine, was obtained in the latter half of 1968 and this continued during the first quarter of 1969 when vaccine was freely available. Unfortunately, in March, one of the two brands of British vaccine in use had to be withdrawn owing to unacceptable reactions. This resulted in an immediate shortage of vaccine, not helped by manufacturing difficulties on the part of the other maker. The shortage persisted for the remainder of the year. At the time of writing vaccine is again available. The vaccination which was carried out resulted in a dramatic fall in measles and fewer cases were notified than at any time since 1954.

Record Cards received during 1969

1969	1968	1967	1966	1965-62	Under 16	Total
-	45	82	50	113	134	424

SCHOOLS:

There is no material change in our schools. The new Highcliffe C.of E. Infant School came into use at Whitsun but it is still necessary to use the old school as an annexe.

Extensions are planned for Somerford Secondary School and this school, together with Twynham Secondary and Christchurch Grammar, will become comprehensive.

The four school swimming pools are in full use.

WATER:

Christchurch is supplied with water by the West Hampshire Water Company whose works are situated within the Borough. The Company, in addition, supplies part of Bournemouth, the whole of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, part of the New Forest Rural District and part of the Borough of Lymington. Partially treated water in bulk is also pumped to the oil refinery at Fawley.

The raw water is drawn from the River Avon at Christchurch and treated by slow sand filtration and super chlorination. In addition the Company has a source of supply from deep boreholes in the chalk at Hale Park, some 16 miles north of Christchurch near the Wiltshire border. This supply serves Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District and also supplements the supply in Christchurch.

Raw and treated waters are examined daily at the Company's own water testing laboratory which is in charge of a qualified chemist and bacteriologist. In addition, periodic independent samples are sent to an outside laboratory.

The supply of water to the consumer is constant, of moderate hardness, free from plumbo solvent action, and entirely free from metals.

The Company's records show 11,786 separately assessed domestic dwellings to be supplied from their mains in Christchurch. No standpipes are in use.

A typical result of an examination of the treated water is shown below:-

THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received 11.6.69
from WEST HAMPSHIRE WATER COMPANY

Chemical Results in Milligrams per Litre(ppm)

Appearance: Clear and bright.
Turbidity (A.P.H.A.units): Nil
Colour(Hazen): 8. Odour: Nil
pH: 7.9 Free Carbon Dioxide: 5.
Electric Conductivity: 420. Dissolved Solids dried at 180°C: 300.
Reciprocal Megohms per cm
Chlorine present as Chloride: 19 Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 180.
Hardness: Total: 240. Carbonate: 180. Non-carbonate: 60.
Nitrate Nitrogen: 4.1 Nitrite Nitrogen: Absent.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.05. Oxygen Absorbed: 0.70.
Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.03. Residual Chlorine: 0.02.
Metals: Iron, Zinc, Copper, Lead: Absent.
Fluoride: Absent.

Bacteriological Results.

Number of colonies (1 day at 37°C: 2 days at 37°C: 3 days at 20-22°C:
developing on Agar { 4 per ml 5 per ml 5 per ml

Present in Absent from Most probable number

Presumptive Coliform reaction	- ml	100 ml	0 per 100 ml
Bact. Coli. (Type 1)	- ml	100 ml	0 per 100 ml
Cl. Welchii reaction	100 ml	10 ml	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are not excessive. The organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses.

SEWERAGE:

The extensions to the Sewage Works were completed in the Spring of 1969 and since then the Works have been capable of dealing with all demands.

Liquid sludge continues to be removed by tanker for disposal on farm land. Irrigation equipment has been purchased enabling sludge to be disposed of on wet land unsuitable for vehicles.

The Whitehall main pumping station is now fully automated.

Work has started on the Mudeford Drainage Scheme for which the anticipated completion date is early 1971. This badly needed scheme will eventually eliminate the undesirable overflows which occur at times from the present overloaded system.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:

Routine supervision of food premises has continued. Standards, in general, remain satisfactory.

HOUSING:

208 private houses were built during the year as compared with 384 in 1968. In addition, 18 flats and 12 terraced bungalows were constructed for old people by private enterprise. Council construction consisted of 56 units of accommodation.

The following details relating to housing accommodation and the current waiting list have been kindly supplied by the Housing Officer - Mrs. M. Clark.

Families housed in Council accommodation : 60

There were 331 applicants on the housing list, made up as follows:-

Demolitions 7

GENERAL HOUSING LIST

(Includes 60 Servicemen, applicants in tied accommodation and 31 engaged couples) 295

Old People's Dwellings 27

Strete Mount 13

Gordon Mount 6

Sydney and Rutland Roads 8

Revvo Castor Company
(Balance of Allocation)... .. 2

APPLICANTS ON GENERAL LIST

<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
292	283	325	351	331

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948: SECTION 47:

One old woman was dealt with under this section. She was found to be living alone in an unheated house, and in insanitary conditions. Compulsory removal to a County Council Welfare Home undoubtedly saved her life. It was necessary to renew the Order on two occasions.

GENERAL REMARKS:

The health of the Borough was satisfactory throughout the year.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease was the lowest ever recorded. The dramatic fall in Measles is a tribute to vaccination in what ordinarily would have been a "measles year".

The estimated mid-year population increased by 640 to 31,780. Deaths exceeded births by 77 giving a total of 717 immigrants to the Borough during the year.

The birth rate fell sharply and was the lowest ever recorded in the Borough. 26 fewer births occurred than in the previous year, itself a year with a low birth rate.

Fortunately the infant mortality rate also fell.

The death rate fell and was the lowest since 1964. 48.7% of deaths were inhabitants over the age of 75.

Continued progress has been made with improvements and extensions to the Sewerage System.

My sincere thanks are due to colleagues in other departments for their advice and assistance, and above all to the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal co-operation at all times.

D.J.N.McNAB

JUNE, 1970.

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH

R E P O R T

OF THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

AND

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 6 9.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.

I have pleasure in presenting to you my fifth Annual Report covering the work of the Department during the year ending 31st December, 1969.

The increase in population, the introduction of new enactments and a greater public awareness together with a demand for higher standards has increased the work load of the Department and your Public Health Inspectors are fully stretched in their efforts to cope.

HOUSING.

It is the responsibility of this Department to inspect houses in the Private Sector for the purposes of securing demolition, repair or improvement in order that our older houses may be brought up to and maintained at a proper standard.

Although the number of older houses in the Borough of Christchurch is not great in comparison with many other towns there is still a long way to go before we reach our objective which is to ensure that every family is living in a house in good repair and contains the standard amenities such as baths, hot water and internal W.C. which so many of us take for granted.

It is also hoped that not only the houses be improved but also their surrounding areas in order to provide a more healthy and pleasant environment.

Since the introduction of the Housing Act, 1969 towards the end of the year, the number of applications for Improvement Grants have increased quite dramatically and the Department has been inundated with applications from owners for Qualification Certificates. During 1969, fourteen houses have been repaired and five demolished.

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Routine inspections of all Food Premises are carried out and many of them are improved as a result. In general, the Food Premises in the Borough of Christchurch are of a reasonably good standard, but there is a minority of premises which are of a very low standard. The filthy conditions found in some Food Premises are incredible, but what is even more astounding is the attitude of the occupier. Public Health Inspectors initial informal request to clean up the premises and to carry out certain works are generally ignored, and in spite of persistent visits and demands from the Inspector, nothing is done until prosecution becomes imminent and the possibility of the loss of their business becomes apparent.

Such occupiers should bear in mind that prosecution for the original offences can still be proceeded with in spite of the fact that the premises are cleaned up and brought up to a satisfactory standard and the sudden scramble to clean up the premises at the last minute will not necessarily avoid the need for their attendance at Court.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Food of all descriptions is inspected at the request of any trader in the area. If any shopkeeper has any doubts about the fitness of any food he has simply to contact the Department. The food will be inspected and he will be advised accordingly. Should the food prove to be unsound it is taken away to be buried in refuse tip under the supervision of the Inspector.

The following is a list of food condemned during the year:-

Fish	1 case + 67 lbs.
Meat	23 lbs.
Cooked Meat and Meat Products.....	105 lbs.
Mixed Tins, Meat, Fruit, Fish and Vegetables	1,617 tins.
Other foods	127 jars.
	88 cartons.
	1,663 packets.
	34 lbs.
	2 gallons.

Other Foods (Cont.)	14 bags.
	14 boxes.
	7 containers.
	25 bottles.
	30 tubs.
	2 tubes.
	46 dozen.
Pheasants	$\frac{1}{2}$ dozen.
Packets Frozen Foods due to breakdown in refrigeration	82 packets.
	6 gallons.
	14 lbs.

SAMPLING.

The sampling of food and drugs for adulteration is the responsibility of the County Council. Their Chief Inspector, Mr. J.S. Preston, performs these duties, and I am indebted to him for his latest report of samples taken during the year ended 31st. March 1970.

"During the year ended 31st March, 1970, 32 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the Borough of Christchurch.

Milk Samples.

15 samples of milk were obtained including three samples of 'Channel Islands' and all were satisfactory.

Miscellaneous Samples.

With regard to other articles, 17 samples of various food and drugs were taken, these also being free from complaint on this occasion.

General.

In addition to the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, the usual attention was given to the labels and descriptions of food and drugs under the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act. No matters of significance occurred."

MILK SUPPLY.

There was a further increase in the number of persons retailing Milk with the exception of Sterilised Milk where the number has been reduced by one.

All milk retailed in the Borough is bottled at establishments outside the district.

The following list shows the number of dairies and persons registered as distributors, and the number and types of licences in force:-

Number of Distributors of Milk	89
Number of Dairies on Register	3
Dealers licensed to use the designation Untreated Milk	9
Dealers licensed to use the designation Pasteurised Milk.....	75
Dealers licensed to use the designation Sterilised Milk	28
Dealers licensed to use the designation Ultra Heat Treated Milk.....	9

ICE CREAM.

The Department has obtained regular samples of Ice Cream and I am pleased to report that these were of a very high standard. Grades 1 and 2 are considered to be good.

45 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, the results being as follows:-

Grade 1.	40
Grade 2.	3
Grade 3.	2
Grade 4.	-

DRAINAGE.

The inspection of new drainage work was after careful consideration handed over to the Building Inspectors because it was felt that such an arrangement would lead to greater efficiency in the use of manpower.

Existing drains will continue to be dealt with by the Public Health Department.

The number of properties not drained to sewers, and the facilities available are:-

Draining to Septic Tanks	99
Draining to Cesspools	40
Bucket Latrines	14
Draining Others	2

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES.

During the year it was decided to adopt the policy of reviewing the site conditions and to bring these more in line with modern requirements. Although the time available for this particular duty is limited, a good start has been made and it is hoped that satisfactory progress will continue.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Regular inspections have been carried out on all premises coming within the scope of this Act. The number of premises have again increased and there has been a fairly high increase in the number of staff employed.

The premises registered at the end of the year were as follows:-

Offices	105
Retail Shops	262
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	5
Catering Establishments.....	45
Fuel Storage Depots	2

Class of Workplace and the number of persons employed:-

Offices	593
Retail Shops	876
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	52
Catering Establishments	270
Fuel Storage Depots	9

A total of 1,800, of which 1,073 are females.

SWIMMING POOLS.

Sampling of all swimming pools and paddling pools within the area ensures that they are kept up to a high standard.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

(a) Refuse Collection.

A weekly collection service has been maintained throughout the year and delays have been minimal. Difficulty is still being experienced in obtaining suitable staff but it is hoped that the proposed Work Study and Bonus Scheme will make the job more attractive.

Special collections of household items, garden refuse and builders rubble are still being made, for which there is a reasonable charge.

(b) Refuse Disposal.

Refuse is still being disposed of at reasonably low cost by controlled tipping on the land at Stanpit Marsh. Every effort is being made to secure further tipping sites for future use. The Working Party of the South East Dorset, Bournemouth and South West Hampshire Study Group have now decided to employ the services of the Local Government Operational Research Unit for the purposes of ascertaining the best method of Refuse Disposal for the whole area.

(c) Transport.

The long awaited, much improved maintenance service has been of great benefit to the Department. Future transport requirements will be considered in conjunction with the proposed Work Study.

SALVAGE.

Income from Salvage for the fiscal year was £6,660 as against £4,629 the previous year. This remarkable increase was once again an all time record.

It is expected that the income will once again be increased next year and it is hoped that more and more householders will put their waste paper, rags and metals out separately.

I should like to pay tribute to the men and supervisory staff who have done so much to make the scheme a success.

PEST CONTROL.

Constant attention is required to ensure proper control of rodents and other pests. Although rats and mice are still our main pest, Feral Pigeons are becoming more and more a problem. The number of Collared Doves is increasing rapidly and unfortunately because they are on the protected list they cannot be controlled. This particular species can become a terrible nuisance and it is hoped that the public will not encourage them by feeding.

Total number of premises infested	
and treated during the year	520
Total number of visits during	
the year	3009

FACTORIES

All the factories in the area have continued to receive attention in order to ensure a satisfactory standard of hygiene, particularly in relation to sanitary conveniences and canteens.

GENERAL.

Many other duties are carried out by the Department, such as investigation of smell, noise, smoke and fly nuisances, which all add to the work carried out by your Public Health Department.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, fellow officials in all Departments, and members of staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal support and co-operation.

CLEMENT WILLARD

Chief Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

Stour Cottage,
20, Barrack Road,
Christchurch,
Hants.

July, 1970.

T A B L E 1.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Acts.

Housing inspections.....	39
Housing revisits.....	126
Animal keeping.....	43
Accumulations and deposits.....	117
Smell nuisances.....	67
Clean Air Act.....	38
Noise Abatement Act.....	70
Infectious diseases.....	17
Disinfection.....	3
Filthy and verminous premises/articles.....	27
Disinfestation.....	36
Caravans (individual).....	177
Camps.....	84
Drainage.....	1191
Soil vents, plumbing.....	148
Septic Tanks, cesspools.....	211
Closet Accommodation.....	5
Public conveniences.....	20
Dustbins.....	149
Refuse collection.....	124
Refuse disposal.....	518
Salvage.....	526
Swimming Baths.....	91
Ponds, ditches, streams.....	11
Other complaints.....	11
Paddling Pools.....	4

Housing

Acts.

Housing inspections.....	343
Housing revisits.....	60
Overcrowding.....	6
Houses in multiple occupation.....	22

Factories

Act.

Factories with power.....	127
Factories without power.....	4
Outworkers.....	37
Workplaces.....	1

T A B L E 1
(continued.)

Pests Act.

Rats and Mice.....	2812
Other Pests.....	197

Food and

Drugs Act.

Catering.....	82
Bakehouses.....	7
Food factories.....	2
School Canteens.....	6
Bakers shops.....	19
Butchers shops.....	42
Grocers shops.....	100
Greengrocers and fruiterers.....	52
Fishmongers.....	18
Fish-friers.....	15
Ice-cream.....	45
Sweet shops.....	44
Milk shops, Dairies.....	23
Licensed premises.....	36
Food vehicles.....	14
Food poisoning.....	6
Food inspections.....	74
Food complaints.....	34
Sampling.....	172

Offices, Shops and

Railway premises Act.

General Inspections.....	227
Revisits.....	109
Accident investigations.....	4

Shops Acts.

Shop premises.....	236
Pet Animals Act.....	9

Miscellaneous.

Unclassified visits.....	107
Interviews.....	32
Committees.....	25
Housing Applications.....	3
Improvement Grants.....	7

T A B L E 2.

The following statement shows in detail work carried out under the supervision of the Department.

(a) Drainage and Sanitary Fittings.

New Buildings drained.....	75
Premises re-drained.....	13
Repairs/alterations to existing drains.....	15
Length in yards drains laid.....	7,024 ² / ₃ yds
Manholes provided.....	494
Intercepting traps provided.....	1
New gulley traps provided.....	410
Soil and Vent Pipes provided.....	51
Water Tests applied.....	304
Smoke Tests applied.....	38
Air tests applied.....	90
Colour Tests Applied.....	8
Drainage defects remedied.....	1
Septic Tanks and Cesspools constructed.....	1
Septic Tanks, Cesspools and Elsan closets abolished.....	4
Septic Tanks and Cesspools drainage connected to sewer.....	2
New W.C. pedestals provided.....	140
Flushing Cisterns provided.....	133
Baths provided.....	88
Wash-hand basins provided.....	83
Sinks provided.....	90
Trapped waste pipes provided.....	318
Choked Drains cleared.....	36
W.C.'s cleansed and repaired.....	4

(b) Miscellaneous.

Roofs repaired.....	5
Windows repaired or renewed.....	4

T A B L E 2
(Continued)

Damp walls remedied.....	7
Dustbins provided.....	35
Nuisance - Accumulation of Refuse.....	2
Nuisance - Rabbits and Pigeons.....	1
Nuisance - Smells.....	2
Nuisance - Smoke.....	4
Food Vehicles.....	2
Shops Defects Remedied.....	40
Dirty Housing Conditions.....	1
Defective Guttering.....	2

SAMPLES AND SPECIMENS TAKEN.

Ice Cream.....	45
Drinking Water.....	7
Swimming Baths.....	46
Paddling Pools.....	39
Cesspools.....	16
Milk.....	14
School Milk.....	3
Food.....	2

T A B L E 3.

During the year complaints were received as detailed below:-

Rats and Mice.....	414
Food.....	70
Defective dustbin, or absence of.....	53
Smells.....	27
Choked Drains.....	54
Defective Roof.....	2
General defects.....	7
Dampness.....	16
Insanitary conditions.....	12
Fleas and Bugs.....	18
Accumulation of Refuse.....	19
Stream Pollution.....	4
Nuisance from smoke or fumes.....	13
Nuisance from noise.....	18
Nuisance from animals, birds,adders.....	14
Nuisance from insects and wasps.....	53
Nuisance from cockroaches.....	4
Nuisance from overcrowding.....	3
Defective windows.....	2
Housing conditions.....	4
Miscellaneous.....	15

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED

Table 4 shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions prejudicial to health.

T A B L E 4.

NOTICES	OUTSTANDING 31. 12. 68.	NUMBER SERVED	COMPLIED WITH	WORK DONE BY L.A. IN DEFAULT	OUTSTANDING 31. 12. 69.
Informal	42	247	158	-	131
Statutory	-	3	2	-	1
TOTAL	42	250	160	-	132

SUMMARY OF STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED:-

Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936..... 2
Section 19, Food and Drugs Act, 1955..... 1

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1969 FOR

THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH IN THE COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the
Factories Act, 1961.

PART 1 of the ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

PREMISES:	No. on Register.	N u m b e r o f		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted.
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	6.	4.	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	106.	127.	-	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	112.	131	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred:		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient.	2	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	5	4	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	9	7	-	1	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK.

(Sections 133 and 134.)

NATURE OF WORK.	Section 133			Section 134		
	No of -workers in August list req- uired by Section 133 (1) (c)	No of cases of defaulting - sending lists to Council.	No of prosecut- ions for failure to supply lists.	No of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices Served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel.	8	-	-	-	-	-
Plastics- Fancy Goods.	46	-	-	-	1	-
TOTAL:	54	-	-	-	1	-

